

200311566-1

10/661,153

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A fuel cell assembly, comprising:  
a fuel cell having an anode, a cathode, and an electrolyte; and  
an integral fuel cartridge and air filter apparatus having  
a fuel cartridge,  
a filter housing coupled to said fuel cartridge, and  
an air filter for cleaning air being supplied to said cathode, said air filter being  
coupled to said filter housing; and  
wherein said integrated fuel cartridge and filter apparatus is coupled to said fuel cell.

13. (original) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said fuel cartridge is fluidly  
coupled to said anode.

14. (original) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said filter is fluidly coupled  
to said cathode.

15. (currently amended) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said filter housing is  
coupled directly to a distal end of said fuel cartridge.

200311568-1

10/661,153

16. (currently amended) The assembly of ~~claim 15~~ claim 12, wherein said filter housing is coupled to a distal end of said fuel cartridge, and wherein a proximal end of said fuel cartridge comprises a fuel outlet.
17. (original) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said filter housing is coupled to distal and proximal ends of said fuel cartridge and said filter at least partially surrounds said fuel cartridge between said distal and proximal ends.
18. (original) The assembly of claim 17, wherein said filter housing further comprises spacing ribs extending at least partially between said distal and proximal ends.
19. (original) The assembly of claim 12, further comprising a handle coupled to a distal end of said fuel cartridge.
20. (original) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said filter housing comprises a structural material.
21. (original) The assembly of claim 20, wherein said structural material comprises plastic.
22. (original) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said filter comprises a spun glass/plastic filter disposed around said fuel container and said filter and said filter housing are coupled by a plastic porous mesh.

200311568-1

10/661,153

23. (original) The assembly of claim 13, further comprising a pre-filter in fluid communication with said filter and with said fuel cell.

24. (original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein said pre-filter is in fluid communication with said filter and said pre-filter is in direct fluid communication with a heat removing system of said fuel cell.

25. (original) The assembly of claim 23, wherein said filter housing is coupled to a top portion of said fuel cartridge and is configured to engage latching tabs disposed on a housing of said fuel cell.

26. (original) The assembly of claim 24, further comprising a filter gasket disposed between said filter housing and said fuel cell housing and a fuel gasket disposed between said fuel cartridge and said fuel cell housing.

27. (currently amended) An electronic apparatus, comprising:  
a power consuming device;  
a fuel cell system providing power to said power consuming device; said fuel cell system having a fuel cell having an anode, a cathode, and an electrolyte;  
an integral fuel cartridge and air filter apparatus having a fuel cartridge, a filter housing coupled to said fuel cartridge, and an air filter for cleaning air being supplied to said cathode, said air filter being coupled to said filter housing; and  
wherein said integrated fuel cartridge and filter apparatus is coupled to said fuel cell.

200311566-1

10/661,153

28. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said fuel cartridge is fluidly coupled to said anode.

29. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said filter is fluidly coupled to said cathode.

30. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said filter housing is coupled directly to a distal end of said fuel cartridge.

31. (currently amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 30~~ claim 27, wherein said filter housing is coupled to a distal end of said fuel cartridge; and wherein a proximal end of said fuel cartridge comprises a fuel outlet.

32. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said filter housing is coupled to distal and proximal ends of said fuel cartridge and said filter at least partially surrounds said fuel cartridge between said distal and proximal ends.

33. (original) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein said filter housing further comprises spacing ribs extending at least partially between said distal and proximal ends.

34. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising a handle coupled to a distal end of said fuel cartridge.

200311566-1

10/861,153

35. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said filter housing comprises a structural material.

36. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising an air mover, said air mover being configured to route air from an ambient air source, through said filter, and to said cathode.

37. (original) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein said air mover comprises a blower.

38. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said filter comprises a spun glass/plastic filter disposed around said fuel container and said filter and said filter housing are coupled by a plastic porous mesh.

39. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising a pre-filter in fluid communication with said filter and with said fuel cell.

40. (original) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein said filter housing is coupled to a top portion of said fuel cartridge and is configured to engage latching tabs disposed on a housing of said fuel cell.

41. (original) The apparatus of claim 40, further comprising a filter gasket disposed between said filter housing and said fuel cell housing and a fuel gasket disposed between said fuel cartridge and said fuel cell housing.

200311566-1

10/661,153

42. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said integral fuel cartridge and filter apparatus further comprises a pre-filter coupled to said filter housing.

43. (original) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein said pre-filter is in fluid communication with said filter and is in direct fluid communication with a heat removing system of said fuel cell.

44-60. (cancelled)

61. (original) A fuel cell system, comprising:  
a fuel cell having an anode, a cathode, and an electrolyte;  
means for delivering fuel to said anode;  
means for filtering an oxidant delivered to said cathode; and  
means for simultaneously coupling said fuel delivery means and said filtering means to said fuel cell.

62. (original) The system of claim 61, further comprising means for selectively coupling said fuel cell system to an electronic device.

63. (original) The system of claim 61, further comprising means for rotatably coupling said fuel cell and said jointly coupled fuel delivery and filtering means.

200311566-1

10/661,153

64. (original) The system of claim 61, further comprising means for pre-filtering an oxidant delivered to said cathode.

65. (original) The system of claim 64, further comprising means for conveying a portion of air passing through said pre-filtering means to cool said fuel cell.

66-68. (cancelled)

69. (new) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said integral fuel cartridge and air filter are integrated such that said fuel cartridge and air filter can be simultaneously removed from or installed in said assembly as a single unit.

70. (new) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said integral fuel cartridge and air filter are integrated such that said fuel cartridge and air filter can be simultaneously coupled with or uncoupled from said fuel cell as a single unit.

71. (new) A fuel cell assembly, comprising:

a fuel cell having an anode, a cathode, and an electrolyte; and

an integral fuel cartridge and air filter apparatus having

a fuel cartridge containing a supply of fuel for said anode, and

an air filter, coupled to said fuel cartridge, for cleaning air being supplied to said cathode;

wherein said integrated fuel cartridge and filter apparatus is coupled to said fuel cell.